

Remarks

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9-11 and 13-18 are pending. Claims 4, 8 and 12 are canceled and new Claims 13-18 are added in this Response.

Amendments to the Specification

A substitute Specification and Abstract accompany this Response. In the original Specification, "edge" and "side" were used interchangeably to refer to the periphery of the sheet. The Specification and Abstract have been amended to replace "edge" with "side" in all instances in which reference was being made to the periphery of the sheet. In one instance in the Specification, "edge" refers to that part of the sheet that is perpendicular to the face of the sheet, along the thickness of the sheet. That instance of the use of "edge" has not been changed.

Rejections Under Sections 102 and 103

Claims 1-12 were rejected under Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Huston (6766953).

Claim 1 as amended recites reading a marking representing machine readable data indicating the side along which the marking is located and determining the side of the sheet on which the marking is located based on at least a portion of the data represented by the marking. Similar amendments have been made to Claims 5 and 9.

Huston does not teach a marking representing machine readable data indicating the side along which the marking is located or determining the side of the sheet on which the marking is located based on data represented by the marking. Claims 1, 5 and 9 as amended and their respective dependent claims, therefore, distinguish patentably over Huston.

Claim 2, which depends from Claim 1, has been amended to recite that the single marking comprises at least one of four single markings each of which is located along a different one of the four sides of the sheet such that the imaging device can read the marking independent of any particular orientation of the sheet. Claims 6 and 10 recite similar limitations.

Huston does not teach reading at least one of four single markings each of which is located along a different one of the four sides of the sheet. For this additional

reason, Claims 2, 6 and 10 distinguish patentably over Huston.

New Claims 13-18 recite additional features that further distinguish Huston.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete response to the outstanding Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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